

Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1 to 4. (canceled)

Claim 5. (currently amended) A method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles for a human which comprises orally administering to a human an effective amount of a skin care agent to improve moisture and tension of the skin comprising:

(a) a collagen peptide that is obtained by extracting collagen from fish skin ~~or an adjacent portion thereof[[,]]~~ or fish bone ~~or an adjacent portion thereof[[,]] of a fish, and~~ producing a mixture of collagen peptides by enzymolysis, the collagen peptide having a number average molecular weight of 1,000 to 10,000; and

(b) N-acetylglucosamine;

wherein the collagen peptide is contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 99.9 % by weight of the total weight of the skin care agent and the N-acetylglucosamine is contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 99.9 % by weight of the total weight of the skin care agent.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the mixture of collagen peptide peptides ~~obtained from fish~~ is prepared by ~~enzymolysis and~~ carrying out a reverse osmosis membrane treatment [[;]] after the enzymolysis, such that said collagen peptide ~~containing~~ contains at most 1.0 % by weight of free amino acid and at most 2 ppm of arsenic, as measured by HPLC.

Claims 7 to 12. (canceled)

Claim 13. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5,

wherein the skin care agent further comprises an ingestible carrier.

Claim 14. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 13, wherein the ingestible carrier is at least one food selected from the group consisting of confectioneries, powdered soups, dairy products, beverages, gum, candies, tabletted confectioneries, chocolate, jelly, cookies, corn potage soup, consomme soup, milk, pudding, yogurt, ice cream, alcohol beverages, vitamin beverages, mineral beverages, coffee beverages and nutrition drinks.

Claim 15. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the skin care agent is administered in the form of tablets, capsules, a powder, granules, a liquid or a paste.

Claim 16. (canceled)

Claim 17. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the N-acetylglucosamine is contained in an amount of from 1 to 50 % by weight of the total weight of the skin care agent.

Claim 18. (canceled)

Claim 19. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the N-acetylglucosamine is orally administered in an amount of from 0.1 to 15 g per day.

Claim 20. (canceled)

Claim 21. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the N-acetylglucosamine is obtained by hydrolysis of chitin with an acid, an enzyme or an acid and an enzyme.

Claims 22 to 24. (canceled)

Claim 25. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein the N-acetylglucosamine is contained in an amount of from 35 to 50 % by weight of the total weight of the skin care agent.

Claim 26. (previously presented) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 5, wherein said (b) contains the N-acetylglucosamine in a mixture with chitinoligosaccharide, said chitinoligosaccharide being produced when the N-acetylglucosamine is obtained by hydrolysis of chitin; and said chitinoligosaccharide being contained in an amount of from 0.1 to 20 % by weight of the total weight of the skin care agent.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 26, wherein the mixture of collagen peptide peptides obtained from ~~fish~~ is prepared by ~~enzymolysis and~~ carrying out a reverse osmosis membrane treatment after the enzymolysis, such that

said collagen peptide ~~containing~~ contains at most 1.0 % by weight of free amino acid and at most 2 ppm of arsenic, as measured by HPLC.

Claim 28. (new) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 6, wherein the reverse osmosis membrane treatment is performed with a reverse osmosis membrane having a salt-preventing rate of 10%.

Claim 29. (new) The method for promoting amelioration of rough skin and wrinkles according to Claim 27, wherein the reverse osmosis membrane treatment is performed with a reverse osmosis membrane having a salt-preventing rate of 10%.